

Application Serial No. 10/035,047
Amendment dated October 31, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated May 2, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] Clean fuel is an important part of engine operation as engine 10 has several jets and passages which could be clogged if the engine fuel contained contaminants. In one embodiment, filter 28 is installed in filter housing 30 (Figures 2 and 3) downstream from fuel pump 14 to filter fuel exiting fuel pump 14 and prevent fuel contaminants from entering engine 10. A portion of filter housing 30 is defined by standpipe 22. Fuel enters fuel pump 14 and is thereafter pumped through filter 28 to remove contaminants therein. After reaching lower portion 32 of filter housing 30, fuel is thereafter supplied to engine 10. As illustrated in Figures 2 and 3, fuel flow Q (from fuel tank 12) enters fuel pump 14 via fuel line 26. Fuel is then pumped through fuel pump 14 to fuel ~~passageway 34~~ passageway 36, top edge 34 of filter 28, and finally into filter 28. After traveling through filter 28, the fuel exits filter 28 through lower portion 32 of filter housing 30 and is thereafter conveyed to engine 10 (Figure 1). Fuel flow Q is schematically depicted as exiting filter housing 30 at lower housing portion 32. Various structures may be utilized to thereafter conduct fuel to engine 10 (Figure 1), including a single fuel line in fluid communication with lower housing portion 32.

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:

[0019] Referring to Figures 2 and 3, filter 28 has a hollow cylindrical shape with mesh filter ~~material 28~~ material 42 interposed between inner housing 38 and outer housing 40. The outer diameter of inner housing 38 and the inner diameter of outer housing 40 provide a framework for supporting and protecting mesh material 42 through which fuel passes. Mesh material 42 includes open spaces sized to permit fuel flow therethrough while trapping solid contaminants therein. The contaminants collected by the fibrous material of filter 28 are thus prevented from entering engine 10. Contaminants trapped by filter 28 include, e.g., dust, dirt, metallic particles and various other materials which could cause damage to engine 10.